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NORHAM & ISLANDSHIRES
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Norham and Islandshires

Rural District

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1939.

PRINTED BY
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Norham and Islandshires Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

NORHAM AND ISLANDSHIRES RURAL DISTRICT

For the Year ended 31st December, 1939.

MR CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1939.

General Statistics.

Area—The area of the District is 47,011 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population—4,540.
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books—1444.
Rateable Value—£17,607.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£79.

Social Conditions.

The industries in the district are unchanged, viz., salmon fishing on the Tweed and coast, and coal mining at Scremerston.

The fishers had a successful year, and there has been little unemployment at the colliery. Holy Island and Tweedside had a fair quota of summer visitors.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

			Male	Female	
Live births—Legitimate		47	24	23	Birth rate per 1000 population—11.44
	Illegitimate	4	1	3	
Still births	...	1	1	—	Rate per 1000 births—19.6
Deaths	...	60	33	27	Rate per 1000 population—13.21

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis ... } Nil.
Deaths from other Puerperal causes ... }

Death rate of infants under 1 year—

All infants, per 1000 live births 39.2

Legitimate infants, per 1000 legitimate live births 19.6

Illegitimate infants, per 1000 illegitimate live births 250.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 8

,, Measles 0

,, Whooping Cough 0

,, Diarrhœa 0

Live births show an increase of 9 on 1938 figures, and the number of deaths remain the same.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Part time Medical Officer of Health—
Herbert F. Park, M.B., CH.B., Norham.

Part time Sanitary Inspector— J. Romans Lake, East Ord.

Vaccination Officers—

Norhamshire—H. F. Park, M.B.,CH.B, Norham.

Islandshire—J. Elliot, L.R.C.S.E., Lowick.

Laboratory Facilities—The County Laboratory, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Ambulance Facilities—By arrangement with Berwick Town Council, a modern ambulance can be provided for all accidents, or infectious cases in the area.

Nursing in the Home.—Nurses of the Northumberland County Nursing Association render efficient service.

Hospitals.—There is no change in hospital accommodation. Infectious cases are isolated at Berwick Isolation Hospital. The smallpox hospital at Oxford has not been in use during the year.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.—The new supply of water at Thornton came into operation early in the year, and has proved a great boon to the localities of Norham and Horncliffe. The supply is excellent in quality and quantity, and has been the means of modernising the sanitation in both places. The question of water on Holy Island is necessary in abeyance meanwhile.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The facilities in various districts, have been improved along with the construction of Council Houses e.g., at Norham, Horncliffe, and East Ord.

Rivers and Streams.—There are no industries to cause any gross pollution.

Closet Accommodation.—Householders in Norham and Horncliffe continue to convert to the water carriage system, and many of the dry closets are disappearing.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year :

Disease.	*Total Cases notified.*	*Cases admitted to Hospital.*	*Total Deaths*
Smallpox ...	0	0	...
Scarlet Fever ...	17	9	...
Diphtheria ...	10	10	...
Enteric (Paratyph. B)	0	0	...
Puerperal Fever	0	0	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	...
Pneumonia ...	1	0	...
Other Diseases generally notifiable (specify disease)	0	0	...
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease)	0	0	...
Erysipelas ...	1	0	...

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES. Resp. M	NEW CASES. Resp. F	NEW CASES. Non-Resp. M	NEW CASES. Non-Resp. F	DEATHS. Resp. M	DEATHS. Resp. F	DEATHS. Non-Resp. M	DEATHS. Non-Resp. F
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	...

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The two slaughter houses at Norham continue to be satisfactory.

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

There has been no serious outbreak of infection during the year. A number of scattered cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria occurred, and were of a mild type.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Herbert. Park

M. O. H.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR, for the Year 1939.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1939.

Visits of inspection have been made throughout the district during the year. No statutory notices have been served. Informal notices have been issued, and verbal instructions given to agents, and responsible persons, and these notices and instructions have been well attended to.

Housing (Rural Workers) Act.—During the year certificates of completion have been issued in regard to, 2 Cottages at Holy Island, and 3 Cottages at Greenlawalls. During the year, the following Council Houses have been completed, and let to tenants affected by the Clearance Orders.

23 houses in Norham.
10 houses in Ord.
14 houses in Horncliffe.

Plans.—Plans for the erection of new houses and other buildings, and plans for improvement to property, have been submitted to, and approved by the Council. These include the following :—House at South Buckton ; Bungalow at Norham ; Fishers Arms, Horncliffe ; House at Horncliffe ; Greenhouses, Windyridge, East Ord ; House near Mansfield Road ; Bungalow at Oxford Road ; Bungalow at Donaldson's Lodge.

Water Supplies.—There has been no actual scarcity of water in any part of the district during the year. The new supply to Norham, Horncliffe and district, fully described in last year's report, is working satisfactorily.

Holy Island.—The main source of supply is from the Popple Well. This spring has always met the needs of the inhabitants of the Island.

Fenwick.—This village is supplied by gravitation from a spring which rises in Kyloe Woods. This supply is under the ownership of the Local Authority.

East Ord.—This is a gravitation water supply under the sole ownership of the Local Authority.

Cornhill.—The water supply to Cornhill village and the surroundings, is pumped from a spring, and gravitates from a reservoir by a 2in. water main. The water is of good quality and ample quantity. The system is privately owned.

The following is the result of bacteriological examination of sample of water taken from standpipe at Castle Heaton Farm.

Number of colonies per ml. of water developing at 37 C—80
Probable number of Coli-Aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. of water—22 C—210.

Rivers and Streams.—There are no public works in the area, and consequently no river pollution from these sources.

Sewerage and Drainage.—Horncliffe.—A new 6in. sewer, with manholes, was laid in Horncliffe village, and connected with the Septic Tank.

Schools.—The Hampshire privy system is prevalent in nearly all the schools in the area. Water is laid on where gravitation supplies are available.

Disinfection.—All premises where infectious disease occurred have been thoroughly disinfected, also all schools in the affected areas.

Dairies and Cowsheds (Milk Supply).—During the year dairies and cowsheds have been inspected. The cleanliness of these has been well observed, also flushing and whitewashing.

Factories and Workshops.—These number 34, and have all been well kept.

Camping Sites.—There were two camping sites in the district. Since the start of hostilities these have been abandoned, and are not now used as such.

Disinfestation.—There was no occasion to disinfestate for the eradication of bed bugs.

Slaughterhouses.—The two slaughterhouses at Norham have been visited and found to be well kept. The humane killer is in use in both.

I am,
Your obedient servant,

J. Romans Lake

Sanitary Inspector.

East Ord,
Berwick-upon-Tweed.
September, 1940.

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